

Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 DODE-00 PM-04 TRSE-00 OMB-01

XMB-04 MC-02 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07 /089 W

----- 068775

R 290445Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8336

UNCLAS TANANARIVE 1234

PASS TO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND DEFENSE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, MA

SUBJECT: MADAGASCAR'S INTEREST IN PURCHASE OR LEASE OF US AIR-
CRAFT

REF: TANANARIVE 1176

1. AT BEHEST OF GDRM PRESIDENT RATSIRAKA, BOTH CHARGE AND DATT HAVE BEEN APPROACHED BY HIGH-RANKING GDRM OFFICERS ABOUT PURCHASE OR LEASE OF A C-130/L-100 AIRCRAFT RIGGED FOR FIREFIGHTING (WATERBOMBING). RATSIRAKA HAS EXPRESSED HIS DESIRE THAT THE AIRCRAFT BE IN COUNTRY BY SEPTEMBER 1976 FOR COMMENCEMENT OF FIRE SEASON.

2. PRESENTLY THERE ARE NO C-130/L-100 QUALIFIED PILOTS IN MADAGASCAR. CONSEQUENTLY, PRESIDENT HAS INDICATED HE WILL CONSIDER LEASING AN AIRCRAFT WITH CREW(S) FOR DURATION OF FIRE SEASON. WE HAVE BEEN IN TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH LOCKHEED GEORGIA REPS PUTNAM (WHO COVERS AFRICA) AND RIDINGS (PUTNAM'S BOSS) WHO HAVE TOLD US THAT IT VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO DELIVER NEW AIRCRAFT BY SEPTEMBER--FIRST AVAILABLE DELIVERY BEING FOURTH QUARTER 1977. THEY ARE INVESTIGATING USED AND LEASED AIRCRAFT MARKETS IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE MALAGASY, BUT ARE NOT SURE IF THEY

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CAN COME UP WITH SATISFACTORY SOLUTION.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: PERHAPS DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE
AND DEFENSE CAN DEVELOP AND FORWARD INFORMATION CONCERNING
AVAILABLE OF SUCH AIRCRAFT FOR SALE OR LEASE.
SHEINBAUM

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 29 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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